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THE DIRECTOR OF CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20505

National Intelligence Council

NIC 10045-82
10 December 1982

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: Briefing of Senator Mathias on Pakistan's
Nuclear Program, 9 December 1982

The briefing took place in Senator Mathias' office at 1645. He was alone with me, [redacted] (OSWR), and Burton Hutchings (the office was swept just before the briefing). I began by repeating what I had told Senator Mathias and the Foreign Relations Committee (SFRC) about Pakistan's continuing efforts to acquire nuclear explosives during my testimony before the full SFRC on 27 September 1982. The Senator noted that President Zia had told the Committee on 7 December that Pakistan had no intention to develop nuclear weapons nor was it doing so. He said that Zia also maintained that he would be willing to open his nuclear installations for inspection so that there would be no doubt about this. I responded that Zia had made similar gesture in 1979 but subsequently withdrew an invitation for a US visit to the Kahuta enrichment facility. I covered the major aspects of continuing Pakistani nuclear efforts and said Zia might want to avoid a choice between pursuing the development of a nuclear weapon and the security relationship with the US. In response to his question, I assured Mathias that the US had its own sources for intelligence on key aspects of the Pakistani nuclear program. He also asked if the F-16s could be used as nuclear weapons carriers and whether or not they might be viewed by "other countries" as having this capability. The Senator asked if I could keep him current on the issue through periodic future briefings. I said that I would be pleased to do so and that I felt that Mr. McMahon would be pleased to make whatever arrangements suited the Senator for this purpose.

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Acting NIO/AL

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cc: DDCI
C/NIC
VC/NIC
NIO/NESA
OLC - Mr. Hutchings

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